

**COMBINED DECLARATION
AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

(Original, Design, National Stage of PCT, Divisional, Continuation or C-I-P Application)

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

"METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AN ESSENTIALLY CONTINUOUS FINE THREAD"

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☐ original
☐ design
☒ national stage of PCT.
☐ divisional
☐ continuation
☐ continuation-in-part (C-I-P)

the specification of which: *(complete (a), (b), or (c))*

- (a) ☐ is attached hereto.
(b) ☒ was filed on June 21, 2000 as Application Serial No. PCT/EP00/05703.
(c) ☐ was described and claimed in PCT International Application No. filed on and was amended on *(if applicable)*.

Acknowledgement of Review of Papers and Duty of Candor

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of the subject matter claimed in this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98.

Priority Claim

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(a)-(d) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT International Application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed

Attorney Docket No. 073306.0101

(complete (d) or (e))

(d) ☐ no such applications have been filed.(e) ☒ such applications have been filed as follows:

PRIOR FOREIGN PCT APPLICATION(S) FILED WITHIN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION			
COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	DATE OF ISSUE (day, month, year)
PCT/EP00/04838		June 21, 2000	
			PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
ALL FOREIGN APPLICATION(S) IF ANY, FILED MORE THAN 12 MONTHS (6 MONTHS FOR DESIGN) PRIOR TO SAID APPLICATION			
GERMANY	199 29 709.6	June 24, 1999	
			PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES NO <input type="checkbox"/>

Claim for Benefit of Prior U.S. Provisional Application(s)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Provisional Application Number	Filing Date

Claim for Benefit of Earlier U.S./PCT Application(s) under 35 U.S.C. 120

(complete this part only if this is a divisional, continuation or C-I-P application)

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PCT/EP00/05703	June 21, 2000	Pending
(Application Serial No.)	(Filing Date)	(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status) (patented, pending, abandoned)

Power of Attorney

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint

R. William Beard, Jr.: 39,903	Ronald L. Chichester: 36,765	Claude E. Cooke, Jr.: 34,142	Roger J. Fulghum: 39,678
Michael A. Hawes: 38,487	Carey J. Hetherington: 47,646	Paul N. Katz: 35,917	Michael G. Locklar: 44,878
Mitchell D. Lukin: 30,772	Jerry W. Miller: 23,008	Paul R. Morico: 35,960	Paul Ackerman: 39,891
Scott F. Partridge: 28,142	Bruce W. Slayden, II: 33,790	Howard L. Speight: 37,733	Lori D. Stiffler: 36,939
Khaman Sontharam: 45,144	Melissa J. Szmiter: 40,834	G. Alan Warr: 36,061	

Attorney Docket No. 073306.0101

Please direct all communications to: Baker Botts L.L.P., One Shell Plaza, 910 Louisiana Street, Houston, Texas 77002-4995, 713.229.1786, Fax: 713.229.7886, attention of: Bruce W. Slayden, II, as attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

FULL NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR	LAST NAME Gerking	FIRST NAME Lüder	MIDDLE NAME
RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Berlin <i>DEX</i>	STATE or FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP German
POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Hohe Ahren 1	CITY Berlin	STATE or COUNTRY Germany
DATE ✓ Dec. 20, 2001	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR <i>[Signature]</i>		
		ZIP CODE 14195	

Check proper box(es) for any added page(s) forming a part of this declaration

- ☐ Signature for ninth and subsequent joint inventors. Number of pages added _____
- ☐ Signature by administrator(trix), executor(trix) or legal representative for deceased or incapacitated inventor. Number of pages added _____
- ☐ Signature for inventor who refuses to sign, or cannot be reached, by person authorized under 37 CFR 1.47. Number of pages added _____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: **GERKING, LÜDER**

Entitled: **"METHOD AND DEVICE FOR THE PRODUCTION OF AN ESSENTIALLY CONTINUOUS FINE THREAD"**

Serial No.: **TO BE ASSIGNED**

Filed on: **JUNE 24, 1999 (CLAIMING PRIORITY 199 29 709.6 FILED ON JUNE 24, 1999)**

Potential Assignee: **PFENNING MEINIG & PARTNER GBR**

Attorney Contact: **BRUCE W. SLAYDEN, II, REG. NO. 33,790 OF BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. (023640)**

Attorney Docket No.: **073306.0101**

ASSERTION OF SMALL ENTITY STATUS UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.27(c)(1)

U. S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant asserts that they are all small entities that qualify for small entity status under 13 C.F.R. 121, 37 C.F.R. 1.27(a)(1), and 37 C.F.R. 1.27(a)(2).

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT

Date: December 21, 2001